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WEATHER  
PAGE 7 — FAIR

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## NEW TAX SYSTEM IS NOW IN EFFECT

General Assembly Adjourns After  
Busy Scenes in Both  
Branches.

FIX BANK STOCK TAX AT \$1.50

House Adopts Stearnes Resolution  
Criticizing Low Assessment  
of Railroad Property.

The special session of the General Assembly, called for the purpose of revising the tax code of the State, was brought to a close yesterday afternoon, the House of Delegates adjourning sine die at 5:30 o'clock and the Senate an hour earlier.

The new system of taxation, the partial segregation system, in the making of which Governor Stuart is conceded to have wielded a dominant influence, becomes immediately effective. The segregation leaders say that the plan is far from perfect, that the Legislature at this special session merely laid the foundations for tax reform. Upon these foundations succeeding Legislatures are expected to build gradually until the scheme of taxation is revised so as to bring about the nearest possible approach to equalization of taxes and other needed reforms.

LAST OF TAX MEASURES  
SENT TO GOVERNOR

The last of the measures pertaining to taxation passed by the General Assembly were sent to Governor Stuart for his signature last Friday. To give the Governor ample time to examine the bills the two branches voted an extension of the special session six days. Hence, for this week the Legislature will remain in constructive session. The officers of both houses and some of the members of the two branches will be at the Capitol each day during the week.

Business was completed in both branches of the Legislature with the close of the morning sessions yesterday. The afternoon sessions were devoted to the usual complimentary exchanges and valedictory speeches.

Matters of legislation of general interest disposed of finally yesterday included the defeat of the Torrens land registry bill in the Senate, after it had passed the House by an overwhelming majority. The action of the Senate on this measure was a keen disappointment to the House. More than half the members of the State were prepared to adopt the Torrens system, and almost every city had asked for it through their respective representatives in the House.

TAX ON BANK STOCKS  
FIXED AT \$1.50 MAXIMUM

Of great interest to bankers and financiers was the passage of the bank stock bill, which fixes the State tax on bank stock at 35 cents, while giving to the localities authority to levy a tax not exceeding \$1.15. This means a reduction of the maximum tax prescribed in the original bank bill from \$1.65 to \$1.50.

Another measure of wide public interest was the public service corporations franchise tax. The House agreed yesterday to the conference committee report, which fixes the franchise tax at 1 percent on the gross receipts of the railroad and steamboat corporations at 1 1/2 percent on the gross receipts of the electric companies, and 1 percent on the gross receipts of the telephone companies, which called for a tax of 1-1/4 percent.

The appropriation of \$7,500 for the expenses of the Richmond Light Infantry Blues on their contemplated trip to the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, San Francisco, which passed the House two days ago, was concurred in by the Senate. The former tax bill, for the fate of which the Senate has been in grave apprehension, was also passed in the closing hours of the session.

COMMITTEE OF HOUSE  
TO ATTEND LAUNCHING

Speaker Cox yesterday named the committee that will accompany him to Newport News to witness the launching of the United States battleship Pennsylvania next Tuesday. The committee will be the guests of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company on that occasion, together with Governor Stuart and Lieutenant-Governor Elyson. The House committee, which will represent the General Assembly of Virginia at the launching ceremony, consists of the following: Delegates Kent, of Halifax; Stock, of Fredericksburg; Stephenson, of Bath; Weaver, of Warren; and Speaker Cox.

At the morning session the two branches passed a bill appropriating \$1,200 for clerical help in the office of the Attorney-General.

By the adoption of a resolution offered by Delegate Page, of Albemarle, the House went on record as disapproving of the method of taxing railroad property employed by the State Corporation Commission. The resolution recites: In effect, the railroad property is now undervalued for taxation, and that "the State Corporation Commission has misconstrued and misinterpreted the meaning" of those sections of the State Constitution which provide for the assessment of railroad property. The hope is expressed in the resolution that the commission will value railway rights of way and realty belonging to railroads so that it will receive only the consideration given to the real estate owned by individuals.

The resolution is, in a sense, an adverse criticism of the present policy of the State Corporation Commission with reference to its dealings with the properties of the railroad corporations.

MANY CHANGES EXPECTED  
IN NEXT HOUSE

A feature of the closing session of the House was the announcement of Speaker Cox that he not only would not be a candidate for re-election, but that he proposed to retire from public life and devote himself to the practice of law. Several other members of the Richmond delegation have stated at

## THEY'RE ALL REPRESENTED

New York City's New Directory Adds  
Materiality to Name Diversity.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]  
NEW YORK, March 13.—New York's new city directory for 1915 is out. The book lists 1,104,676 names of individuals, and gives the population of Greater New York as 5,332,347.

The new directory has added materially to the name diversity. For instance, it has Edna Honey, Mervyn Plum, Josephine Pretty, Jessie Sugar, Gladys Cherry, Emma Jewel, Amelia Sweet and Cecilia Syrup.

There is a Jeanette, Jack and Fanny Gill, not to mention two Jack Horners and a couple of Jades running an employment office.

In the Lower East Side, below Fourteenth Street, which the directory says is the most populous area in the world, with as many people as Delaware, Nevada, Arizona and Alaska, are 138 Prelmaters—one of them Maurice—and fourteen Potatoes, but not one Abe. It is getting so people avoid popular names. There are five Dues, without one John, and ninety-three Roes, and no Richard. Nine Chicks are included, but only one Chicken. His name is George, a chemist.

There are twelve George Washingtons, thirty-six John Adams, two John Quincy Adams, five Thomas Jeffersons and one Abraham Lincoln, a paymaster.

## PACKERS DEMAND FAVORS

Costs Western Roads \$1,000,000 a Year  
to Provide Special Facilities.

CHICAGO, March 13.—It costs Western railroads \$1,000,000 a year to provide special facilities to the meat packers for the transportation of meats, although this outlay yields the railroads nothing, according to E. A. Leland, chairman of the Southwestern tariff committee, who testified today at the Interstate Commerce Commission's hearing of the Western railroads' petition for higher rates.

Mr. Leland said the packers shifted their business to the railroads which have them the service they asked. Transportation of packing-house products, he said, did not bear its share of the maintenance of railroads, and it was upon this contention that the railroads had asked for an increase for the hauling of meats. They would require a general increase of 3-1/2 cents on this commodity to equalize it with other rates, Mr. Leland asserted.

A dozen attorneys, representing the packers in Chicago, Omaha, Fort Worth and Kansas City, were present to oppose the proposed increases.

## JONES SUCCEEDS TITTMAN

Appointed Superintendent of Coast and  
Geodetic Survey.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Ernest Lester Jones, deputy chief commissioner, today was appointed superintendent of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, succeeding O. H. Tittman, who resigned yesterday.

Dr. H. E. Moore, of Pennsylvania, now in the Fisheries Bureau, was appointed deputy commissioner.

R. L. Paris, an assistant in the Coast and Geodetic Survey, has been chosen for assistant superintendent, in place of Frank W. Perkins, who also resigned.

Dr. E. Lester Jones, of Culpeper, Va., the new superintendent of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, has for two years been deputy commissioner of fish and fisheries under the Department of Commerce. He was one of the original Wilson supporters in the State to be one of the first men in the State to be appointed yesterday. His appointment was in recess, and will at the beginning of the next session of Congress be sent to the Senate for confirmation.

## SERVICE NOT CURTAILED

Post-Office Expenditures to Be Held  
Within 1915 Appropriation.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Failure of the 1915 post-office appropriation bill to pass Congress will not result in curtailment of the service or reduction of the working force, Postmaster-General Burleson announced today, recent adjustments of the postal service and a general campaign of economy begun two years ago having made it possible to hold expenditures within the 1915 total.

Daniel C. Roper, First Assistant Postmaster-General, said the estimated decline in postal revenues because of the European war had been considered in effecting readjustments, but that there was no foundation in reports that many post-office employees would suffer reduction of salary or loss of position. Changes contemplated already had been made, he said, and not only would rural patrons continue to receive delivery, but that service would be extended as rapidly as possible.

## POINCARÉ VISITS MAUNOURY

Confers Military Medal Upon Wounded  
General.

PARIS, March 13.—President Poincaré called late yesterday on General Michael Maunoury, wounded while inspecting a German trench, and at the request of General Joffre, conferred upon him a military medal.

The bullet which struck General Maunoury destroyed his left eye and broke his jaw. He has no fever, and is in good spirits. His condition is said by surgeons to be excellent, and no complications are feared.

General de Villaret, wounded at the same time, was struck in the forehead, and a trepanning operation was performed successfully yesterday. His condition causes no anxiety.

## BOY ACQUITTED OF MURDER

Dewey Henderson Made Plea of Self-  
Defense in Georgia Court.

ATLANTA, GA., March 13.—Dewey Henderson, fifteen years old, late today was acquitted of murder by a jury in Fulton County Superior Court. It was charged that Henderson, a lad in knee trousers, stabbed and killed Homer Thompson, eighteen, during a fight several months ago. The boy pleaded self-defense.

## GERMAN CAPTAIN MUST BEAR BLAME

Responsibility for Sinking Frye  
Likely to Be Placed on His  
Shoulders.

OFFICIALS ARE CONFIDENT

Washington Believes Voluntary  
Reparation Will Be Made for  
Loss of Vessel.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—Germany probably will repudiate the action of the captain of the Prinz Eitel-Friedrich in sinking the American ship William P. Frye and make reparation for the loss of the vessel and cargo, in the opinion of officials here.

Council von Bernstorff, the German ambassador after a visit to the State Department today, indicated that he believed the case would be settled without much difficulty. He told Counselor Lansing what the captain of the Prinz Eitel had told Captain Boy-Ed, naval attaché of the German embassy, as to the sinking of the American ship, but the ambassador reserved his own opinion on the commander's action, saying he had no instructions from his government.

Captain Tischerich, of the Prinz Eitel, informed Captain Boy-Ed that his only guide while at sea for many months, and thus out of communication with his government, was the Declaration of London. This would permit the destruction of a neutral prize if carrying a cargo more than half of which could be proved to be contraband, provided it was impossible to take the vessel to a home port without endangering the captor warship.

HAS DEFINED ITS VIEWS  
SINCE OUTBREAK OF WAR

Since war's outbreak, Germany has defined its views on shipments of contraband, and contended that foodstuffs must be proved to be bound actually to the belligerent forces of an enemy before they can be seized.

The German ambassador sent to his government a full report of the story of the German captain and the reasons for the latter's action.

It was said on good authority that in his report to his government the ambassador pointed out that, while the captain acted as best he could under the circumstances, being ignorant of the status of the contraband situation, this fact would not affect the necessity for the payment of damages and the making of reparation by the German government, though it would be an important factor in relieving the commander from personal liability.

W. D. Sewell, of Bath, Me., owner of the Frye, and Captain H. H. Kiehne, its skipper, conferred with officials of the Treasury and State Departments. The captain gave in detail his story of the sinking of the Frye, and he turned over to the American government copies of the papers of his ship. The German captain withheld the originals, in accord with his rights under international law, State Department officials said. Captain Kiehne left tonight for his home in Baltimore.

Counselor Lansing said nothing had been brought to his attention which had not already been disclosed in press reports. Captain Kiehne, Mr. Lansing said, had asserted that the Eitel-Friedrich came north on a course far out to sea, and turned due west into Newport News because of a lack of provisions and the need for repairs.

QUESTION OF DAMAGES  
IS DISCUSSED BRIEFLY

The question of damages was discussed briefly, but neither the owner of the Frye nor State Department officials would indicate that if the sinking of the Frye was proved to be an aggravated case, punitive damages in addition to the value of the ship and cargo might be asked. They pointed out, however, that England paid 25 percent punitive damages in the famous Alabama case during the Civil War.

State Department officials said the next step would be the drafting of a formal claim, which could not be completed until definite information had been received from owners of the cargo. As yet the department knows very little of the consignees or persons to whom the cargo was said to have been sold while en route and conditions of sale. As soon as that data is obtained the case will be ready for presentation to Germany. Some officials, however, believe it was likely that some word would be received before that from the German Foreign Office offering voluntary settlement of the case.

Although Navy Department officials had under consideration the time to be given the Prinz Eitel for repairs, no announcement was made. At the State Department it was said all neutrality phases of the case practically had been disposed of.

The report that two Germans taken off the American ship Frye had been held by the commander of the Prinz Eitel for further military service was brought to the attention of Counselor Lansing, who said the State Department had been informed that the men were German subjects, and had voluntarily enlisted in the commerce destroyer's crew.

BERLIN NEWSPAPERS  
GIVE STORY PROMINENCE

BERLIN, March 13 (by wireless to Sayville).—Berlin newspapers give much space to the report from Newport News telling of the arrival there of the Prinz Eitel-Friedrich.

Much prominence is given a London dispatch saying American public opinion is wrought up on account of the destruction of the William P. Frye by the Eitel.

In the absence of definite or official information, no comment on the incident is made by any of the newspapers.

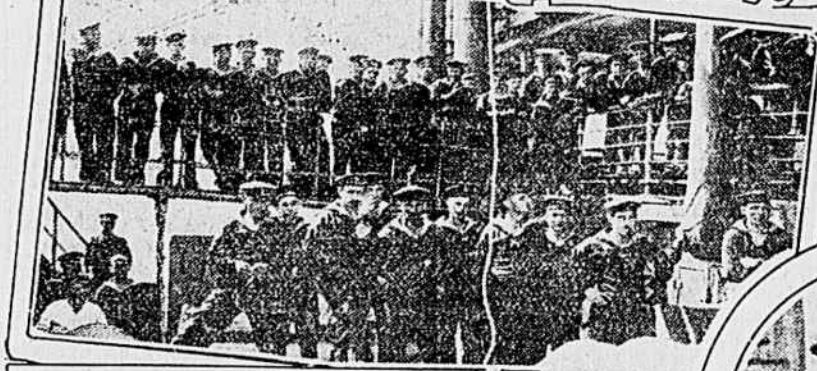
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and Western North Carolina resorts,  
are eagerly inviting in early spring. Varied  
outdoor sports. Extremely low fares. Ex-  
cellent service. Southern Railway. Apply  
307 East Main.

## Some Characters in Newport News Scene of Maritime Drama

PHOTOS COURTESY OF  
UNDERWOOD & N.Y.



Members of the crew  
of the Frye



German sailors on board  
the Eitel-Friedrich



Capt. H. H. Kiehne of the Wm. P. Frye Mrs. Kiehne & sons

## OLIVER TO BE CHAIRMAN OF INVESTIGATING BODY

Speaker Cox Will Name Other  
Members of Chichester Committee  
To-Morrow.

MAY SIT IN FREDERICKSBURG

Committee Has Broad Powers and  
Liberal Control of Funds—Will  
Report to Next Session of Gen-  
eral Assembly.

Speaker Edwin P. Cox, of the House of Delegates, will announce probably to-morrow the personnel of the special committee that will investigate the charges of Delegate S. C. Powell against Judge R. H. L. Chichester, of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.

Among the House members yesterday it was a popular forecast that at least three, and probably four, of the committee of five will be chosen from the body of lawyers, and that Walter Tansill Oliver, chairman of the Courts of Justice Committee, will head the list of the Speaker's appointees.

Vested with almost the broad powers of a court of law, the investigating committee has authority to compel the attendance of witnesses, and to employ methods of probing to which even a court may not have recourse. The committee has the powers of a grand jury, and in the examination of witnesses is not restricted by the laws of evidence that circumscribe the scope of inquiry in a law court.

NO LIMIT IS PLACED ON  
EXPENDITURES OF COMMITTEE

Under the terms of the resolution creating the committee and ordering the investigation, the expenditure of funds for all purposes necessary to the quest for evidence is authorized, and no limit is placed on such expenditures. The committee is given wide discretionary powers, and may fix the time and place for all hearings and act upon its own discretion in the matter of accepting or rejecting lists of witnesses offered by either the Spotsylvania Delegate or the jurist he accuses.

The committee may confine its inquiry to the written charges filed by Mr. Powell or follow up such new lines of evidence as may develop from the testimony of witnesses. Discussing the matter informally yesterday, Delegate Powell expressed the desire that the committee sit in the courthouse in Spotsylvania County. Mr. Oliver is said to favor holding the first sessions of the committee in Fredericksburg. Mr. Powell will go to Spotsylvania County to-morrow and begin at once the task of assembling the evidence with which he hopes to sustain his charges.

While the written charges now before the House are regarded by some of the ablest members of that body as flimsy, vague and indefinite, the

(Continued on Second Page.)

## THAW FACES NEW FIGHT TO SEND HIM TO ASYLUM

Endless Litigation in Sight Follow-  
ing Acquittal for Conspiracy in  
Escaping From Matteawan.

MONDAY SET FOR ARGUMENT

In Meantime Prisoner Occupies His  
Old Cell in Tombs Prison—Four  
Co-conspirators Also Freed by Jury  
and Discharged.

NEW YORK, March 13.—Harry K. Thaw, acquitted today of conspiracy in escaping from Matteawan, faced to-night a renewal of the determined efforts of New York State to send him back to the asylum. In his cell in the Tombs he was enthusiastic. His keepers said he was whistling like a boy, and seemed to be the happiest man in the city.

Almost endless litigation seemed to be in sight as the result of the verdict. The words of acquittal had scarcely died on Foreman Bailey's lips when Deputy Attorney-General Cook moved to have Thaw recommitted to Matteawan. This was opposed by John B. Stanchfield, chief of Thaw's counsel, on the ground that the court already had under advisement a motion to return Thaw to New Hampshire, whence he came, to answer the conspiracy charge. The motion was renewed, and Supreme Court Justice Page set Monday for argument thereon.

IN TOMBS PRISON

In the meantime, Thaw occupies his old cell in Tombs Prison, the cell in which he was locked during the months from the night he shot and killed Stanford White, nearly nine years ago, to his removal to Matteawan.

Thaw's four aids in his whirlwind automobile flight through four States from Matteawan to Canada were acquitted by the same verdict which acquitted Thaw, and were discharged. Deputy Attorney-General Kennedy, while satisfied with the verdict in so far as it related to Thaw, said that he had expected a conviction of Thaw's accomplices.

An appeal from Justice Page's decision in the motion to return Thaw to Matteawan was regarded almost as a certainty, regardless of what the decision might be. The case, therefore, seemed likely to remain in the courts for months before final decision.

Before returning his verdict acquitting Thaw and his codefendants, the jury labored all night and until 12:20 o'clock this afternoon. The verdict was reached quickly after the reading of that portion of Thaw's testimony which concerned his intent in escaping from

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Norman Hamilton,  
COLLECTOR OF  
CUSTOMS AT  
NEWPORT  
NEWS.



Captain  
Mousson of the  
French  
"Floride"

## BRITISH SUCCESSES DUE TO THEIR ARTILLERY

Heavy Guns Open Way for Advance  
to and Beyond Village of Neuve  
Chapelle.

AIMED AT GERMAN TRENCHES

Except in One or Two Places, Infan-  
try Goes Forward Without Diffi-  
culty—Russians Stubbornly Resist  
Movement Against Przasnysz.

LONDON, March 13 (11:05 P. M.).—British successes of the last few days were due to their artillery, which apparently is superior to that of the Germans, according to the story of the "British eyewitness" issued to-night.

The British guns, including heavy howitzers, opened the way for an advance by the British Indian troops, which carried them to and beyond the village of Neuve Chapelle, while airmen, by dropping bombs on the railways, prevented the Germans from bringing up re-enforcements.

The artillery fire is described as the fiercest that has yet been heard in the war, and confirms what heretofore had officially been rumored—that the British and French have brought up, since the battle of Ypres, an enormous number of guns of all calibers. The German trenches on which the artillery fire was directed are completely wrecked, so that, except in one or two places, which had virtually been converted into fortresses, the infantry was able to advance without much difficulty.

SUCCESS HEARTENS  
BRITISH TROOPS

The success has greatly heartened the British troops, who have spent the winter in the trenches, and gives them hope that when the great general movement is decided upon they will be able to carry all before them.

The Germans, according to reports, already are sending large numbers of troops to Flanders, in the belief that a general offensive by the allies has been begun.

The impression here, however, is that the British thrust was only part of the allied strategy, which aims at keeping the Germans busy on both fronts, thus preventing them from concentrating at any one point.

Concurrently, the French continue their offensive in Champagne and the Vosges, and are strengthening the ground which they have won in recent battles.

In the east the German offensive against Przasnysz is not developing as fast as anticipated. The Russians are offering stubborn resistance to their advance along parallel roads, and, owing to inability of the Germans to intrench in the frozen ground, have, thus far had the advantage in the preliminary fighting. In fact, the Germans are said to have withdrawn their front to the north of Przasnysz.

FIGHTING IN PROGRESS  
IN THE CARPATHIANS

Heavy fighting is in progress in the Carpathians, despite snowstorms and deep drifts.

Heavy fog has interfered with operations of the allied fleets against the Dardanelles, but the ships have kept up the bombardment of the forts at Bulair, through which re-enforcements, provisions and ammunition for the fortifications in the strait must pass. They also prevented the Turks from strengthening the forts at the entrance to the strait and before Smyrna, which had previously been destroyed or damaged.

The British admiralty announced to-night that of eighty-eight British ves-

(Continued on Second Page.)

## SEVERAL BRITISH SHIPS TORPEDOED BY GERMAN BOATS

Collier Invergyle and the  
Steamer Indian Head  
Go to Bottom.

MEMBERS OF CREWS  
ARE REPORTED SAVED

Since March 10, Seven English  
Vessels Have Been  
Attacked.

SAFETY OF SOME IN DOUBT

Total of Eighty-Three Destroyed or  
Captured Is War's Toll  
to Date.

## German Submarines Particularly Active

GERMAN submarines have been particularly active in British waters, with the result that seven British steamers have been torpedoed since March 10. Two of them at least have gone to the bottom—the collier Invergyle and the Indian City, the latter a new steamer, of nearly 3,000 tons, laden with cotton from Galveston.

Two others, the Florizian and the Andalusian, may have been sunk, but that has not been confirmed, although their crews are reported to have been rescued. The other three are believed to have been towed to port.

Up to March 10, from the beginning of the war, eighty-eight British merchant vessels were sunk or captured, twelve of them being destroyed by mines and twenty-two by submarines. In addition, nineteen fishing vessels were blown up by mines and twenty-eight captured by hostile craft.

All official reports of land operations indicate comparative quiet prevails along the various battle fronts. The British have held the ground they recently gained about Neuve Chapelle, while on the western front the line has been little beyond artillery firing.

A British "eyewitness," in describing operations around Neuve Chapelle, describes the bombardment by the allies' artillery as the most terrific of the whole war.

LONDON, March 13 (10:35 P. M.).—The admiralty announced to-night that the British collier Invergyle was torpedoed to-day off Crosswell, England, and sunk. All the members of the crew were saved.

The admiralty announcement says that since the 10th of March seven British merchant steamers had been torpedoed by submarines. Two of these, it is stated, were sunk, and two others it is said that "the sinking is not confirmed." Three were not sunk.

The two steamers officially reported sunk are the Invergyle and the Indian City, which was torpedoed off the Scilly Islands on March 12. The crew of the Indian City was reported rescued.

The two steamers whose reported sinking is not yet officially confirmed are the Florizian, which was torpedoed at the mouth of the Bristol Channel on March 11, all of her crew being landed at Milfordhaven, with the exception of one fireman, and the Andalusian, which was attacked off the Scilly Islands on March 12. The crew of the latter vessel is reported to have been rescued.

The Andalusian was torpedoed in the English Channel on March 11, and has since been towed into Cherbourg. Her crew was landed at Brisham. The steamer Headlands was torpedoed on March 12 off the Scilly Islands. It is reported that her crew was saved.

The steamer Hartdale was torpedoed on March 13 off South Rock, in the Irish Channel. Twenty-nine members of her crew were picked up and two were lost.

STEAMERS TORPEDOED  
OFF SCILLY ISLANDS

PENZANCE, March 13 (via London).—The British steamers Indian City, Headlands and Andalusian were torpedoed off the Scilly Islands on Friday morning by the German submarine U-28. The Indian City was sunk, but no lives were lost.

Describing his experiences, Captain Williams, of the Indian City, said:

"At 7:30 o'clock on Friday morning, when nine miles south of St. Mary's Island, I sighted what I thought was the periscope of a submarine 300 yards away. The submarine dived and came up astern."

"I kept the steamer going, but the submarine caught up with it, and through the megaphone the commander told me to put up my flag. I hoisted the German ensign. The commander then told us to get into the boats, which we did. He then blew up the steamer."

The Indian City was a new vessel, of 2,521 tons. She was on her way from Galveston for Havre with her first cargo, which consisted of 14,026 bales of cotton. She sailed from Gal-

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